



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/652,370	08/31/2000	James P. Allen	AUS000537US1	4444

7590 05/12/2003
Joseph T Van Leeuwen
P O Box 81641
Austin, TX 78708-1641

EXAMINER

FAROOQ, MOHAMMAD O

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2182

DATE MAILED: 05/12/2003

3

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/652,370

Applicant(s)

ALLEN ET AL.

Examiner

Mohammad O. Farooq

Art Unit

2182

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 31 August 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 13, 16, 17, 19-23, 26 and 27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 5, 8, 11, 12, 14, 15, 18, 24 and 25 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

1. Claims 1, 4, 7, 9, 13, 17, 19, 20, 23, 26, and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being unpatentable by Yasrebi, U.S. Pat. No. 5,463,625.
2. As to claim 1, Yasrebi teaches method comprising: receiving a close request (prior to put to sleep); and setting the adapter to a quasi-open state (put to sleep mode) in response to receiving the close request (col. 10, lines 52-64).
3. As to claim 4, Yasrebi teaches system maintaining a set of minimal resources (when it is put to sleep; col. 10, lines 52-64).
4. As to claim 7, Yasrebi teaches releasing extended resources corresponding with the adapter (after waking up; col. 10, lines 47-52).

Art Unit: 2182

5. As to claim 9, Yasrebi teaches current state from a group consisting open (after waking up), closed (after termination) and quasi-open (during put to sleep; col. 10, lines 38-64).

6. Claims 13, 17, and 19 comprise same limitations as method claims 4, 7, and 9 respectively. Yasrebi teaches method as set forth in claims 4, 7, and 9. Therefore, Yasrebi also teaches apparatus as set forth in claims 13, 17, and 19.

7. Claims 20, 23, 26, and 27 comprise same limitations as method claims 1, 4, 7, and 9 respectively. Yasrebi teaches method as set forth in claims 1, 4, 7, and 9. Therefore, Yasrebi also teaches computer program product as set forth in claims 20, 23, 26, and 27.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claims 2, 3, 6, 16, 21, and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yasrebi, U.S. Pat. No. 5,463,625.

Art Unit: 2182

9. As to claims 2, 3, and 6, Yasrebi does not teach determining open state between the adapter and the fibre channel, maintaining the open state, not toggling a fibre optic light source included with the adapter, and receiving a message in quasi-open state and rejecting a message in response.

However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to incorporate determining open state between the adapter and the fibre channel, maintaining the open state, not toggling a fibre optic light source included with the adapter, and receiving a message in quasi-open state and rejecting a message in response to the teachings of Yasrebi because that would provide concurrency of data transfers in the communication system.

10. Claim 16 comprises same limitations as method claim 6. Yasrebi teaches method as set forth in claim 6. Therefore, Yasrebi also teaches apparatus as set forth in claim 16.

11. Claims 21 and 22 comprise same limitations as method claims 2 and 3 respectively. Yasrebi teaches method as set forth in claims 2 and 3. Therefore, Yasrebi also teach computer program product as set forth in claims 21 and 22.

Art Unit: 2182

12. Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yasrebi, U.S. Pat. No. 5,463,625 in view of Ho et al. U.S. Pat. No. 6,038,235.

13. As to claim 10, Yasrebi teaches system comprising:

means for receiving close request (prior to put to sleep) and setting the adapter (or a device such as workstation) to a quasi-open state (put to sleep mode) in response to receiving the close request (col. 10, lines 52-64).

Yasrebi does not teach processors, memory, nonvolatile storage device and fibre channel. Ho et al. teach processors, memory, nonvolatile storage device (non volatile memory) and fibre channel (col. 1, lines 32-46). However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the teachings of Yasrebi and Ho et al. because that would place a target device coupled to fiber channel in an open state for receiving data from the host electronic device (col. 4, lines 32-35).

Allowable Subject Matter

14. Claims 5, 8, 11, 12, 14, 15, 18, 24 and 25 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Art Unit: 2182

15. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mohammad O. Farooq whose telephone number is (703) 305-3888. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00am - 4:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffrey A. Gaffin can be reached on (703) 308-3301. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 746-7239 for regular communications and (703) 746-7239 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.



JEFFREY GAFFIN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100

Mohammad O. Farooq
May 6, 2003